

Lea Hutchinson, Director

The El Paso Zoo is an eighteen-acre home to about 240 species of animals. Approximately 500 mammals, reptiles, amphibians and birds, 700 fish and 500 invertebrates live in a variety of natural habitat exhibits including a Reptile House, South American Pavilion, Americas Aviary, Paraje, Birds of Prey, American Biome, Forest Atrium, Asian Grasslands, Asian Endangered Walk and an Elephant Complex. The Zoo is dedicated to excellence in education, recreation, conservation and scientific study while bringing nature's majesty and biodiversity into

focus through meaningful exhibits and programs.

The best way to learn more about the Zoo is by going to the Zoo's award winning "Best of the Border" website at www.elpasozoo.org. There you can learn all about the Zoo's animals, education programs, how to become a volunteer, plus see a schedule of special events.

Every day the Zoo offers special education programs at the World of California Sea Lion Exhibit and the Asian Elephant Exhibit. The Zoo is open every day of the year except Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas, New Year's Eve and New Years Day. You and your family can help save animals and their habitats around the world when you visit the El Paso Zoo.

## **DIVISIONS / CORE SERVICES:**

- Administration: Overall supervision and customer service
- Collections: Daily care of over 250 animal species
- Education: Conservation education programs
- Facilities: Maintain and improve exhibits and grounds and support Zoo events and functions
- El Paso Zoological Society: 501(c)3 non-profit fundraising organization, volunteer program
- Service Systems and Associates: Restaurant and Gift Shop

For more information call (915) 521-1850

## **ACHIEVEMENTS FY05**

2005 was a pivotal year in the history of the El Paso Zoo. The Zoo continues to move forward with major expansion plans as a result of the Quality of Life Bond approved by voters in 2000. Bond projects completed so far include World of the California Sea Lion exhibit, new Administration offices, new facilities complex, new commissary and a new Hilos De Plata Senior Center to replace the former Washington Park Senior Center.

- Zoo staff reviewed the Western Expansion project planning documents and construction will begin in 2006. Completion of a new entry area, reptile exhibit, Chihuahuan Desert exhibit, Africa exhibit and education complex will proceed through 2009.
- Significant births during the year included a rare female Malaysian tapir, tamandua (lesser anteater), acouchis and Patagonian hares

